

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., April 24, 2002 1255 Imperial Avenue Conference Room 436 – 4th Floor San Diego, CA 92101

Members Present:

Bob Barrios
Michael Chee
Bob Crouch
Daniel Elkerton
Richard Gersberg
David Gomez
Ed Heidig
Ruth Heifetz
Bruce Morden

Members Absent:

Richard Leap (excused) Anthony Manoguerra (excused) Ed Moore (excused Others Present:

Julie Ellery - Public Gary Erbeck - DEH Richard Haas - DEH Mike Dorsey, DEH Jack Miller, DEH Liz Quaranta, DEH Susan Salazar, DEH

Malcolm Vinje Carolyn Powers (via telephone conference call)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Bob Shuster Jerry Spahn Alan Thum

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental Health Advisory Board (EHAB) was called to order by the Vice-Chairman Malcom Vinje at 8:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes from the February 27, 2002, meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments from the public.

IV. DIRECTOR'S UPDATED/ACTIONS

A. General Remarks

Gary Erbeck briefly discussed three issues that are impacting DEH in time, energy, and resources. The chicken ranches regarding the management of manure so as not to produce flies, odors or dust. The concerned residents, in the community of Valley Center, regarding the alleged cancer cluster involving children in their community. And the concerned residents, in the community of Barrio Logan, regarding the land use issues and the presence of hazardous waste materials in their community. On May 29, 2002, there will be a town hall meeting in the community of Barrio Logan. EHAB member, David Gomez, requested additional information regarding all three issues discussed. In addition, Gary discussed the recent training DEH provided for the department supervisors and Division Chiefs in Performance Management Principles given by Dr. Shelley H. Metzenbaum, Director, Environmental Compliance Consortium at Harvard University. Each Division Chief has developed performance measures for their division in the area of environmental and public health improvement as a result of this training. This summer a second training session will be held to discuss with staff what they have done.

B. DEH Recruitment - Vacancy Report

Richard Haas reported there were 27 vacancies primarily as a result of adding the newly created positions in the LWQD's stormwater program. Recently, three of the department's staff has retired, relating to the new enhanced retirement program. In next year's budget, the County will be hiring a second Counsel for DEH. DEH is continuing its on-going recruitment efforts.

C. Stormwater/Project Clean Water Update

Jack Miller, Chief of LWQD, gave a brief update regarding Stormwater and Project Clean Water. Included in the discussion was the Jurisdiction Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP), the current training of new DEH Stormwater staff program; and the division's responsibility of providing training to all County employees. Overall Watershed Planning will be managed by the DPLU; support from DEH for water monitoring, modeling and data analysis. The first Project Clean Water annual Summit will be held on June 21, 2002.

V. NEW BUSINESS/ACTIONS

A. Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) Update

Mike Dorsey, Chief of HMD, briefed in the following areas: The Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) is required to be audited once every 3 years by the State. Report results were good; positive recommendations for the program. The Emergency Response Team (ER) is adding staff to both daytime and 24-hour teams, and considering the development of a reserve core. In addition, there is an interest in a Sister City Project between DEH's ER team and Tijuana, Mexico; to develop an emergency communications plan between the two cities, enhancing our ability to communicate in an emergency situation. HMD is developing a business community work group. E-waste is a key issue with challenges involving infrastructure and regulatory oversight. Upcoming workshops HMD will be hosting, one Universal Waste workshop to be held on June 6, 2002; and two Medical Waste Management workshops in conjunction with the veterinary/dental society to be held on July 31, 2002, and September 1, 2002.

B. Radiation Health Contract

Mike Dorsey, Chief of HMD, gave an update of the radiation health contract. The contract has been received, completed and returned to the State. DEH's Senior Health Physicist, Jon Dillon, has accepted a position in industry; he will be leaving the Department on May 29, 2002. Recruitment is open.

C. Local Oversight Program

Jack Miller, Chief, LWQD indicated the State Water Board has advised DEH that there will be a 15% cut over the next 2 years in DEH's contract for the Local Oversight Program (LOP), which oversees the remediation of leaks from underground tanks. This year LWQD is eliminating one staff position in the LOP.

D. Water Quality - Questions & Answers Continuation of 2/27/02 Presentation

The discussion will be continued, at the next EHAB meeting.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, June 26, 2002, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Conference Room 436 – 4th Floor, James R. Mills Building 1255 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101